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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: June 2, 2004 Name: Carmen Matos Michael

Signature:

BRINKS  
HOFER  
GILSON  
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: David M. Hardin et al.

Appln. No.: 10/719,764

Examiner:

Filed: November 21, 2003

Art Unit:

For: LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE

Attorney Docket No: 10000/209 (Client No. DN-1277)

[Choose Mail Stop or blank line]

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in duplicate; Form PTO-1449  
 Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

No additional fee is required.  
 Small Entity.  
 An extension fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).  
 A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(\_\_\_\_).  
 An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

|   | Claims Remaining<br>After Amendment |       | Highest No.<br>Previously Paid For | Present<br>Extra | Small Entity |           | Not a Small Entity |         |           |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------|-----------|
|   |                                     |       |                                    |                  | Rate         | Add'l Fee | or                 | Rate    | Add'l Fee |
| Total                                     |                                     | Minus |                                    |                  | x \$9=       |           |                    | x \$18= |           |
| Indep.                                    |                                     | Minus |                                    |                  | x 43=        |           |                    | x \$86= |           |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim |                                     |       |                                    |                  | +\$145=      |           |                    | +\$290= |           |
|   |                                     |       |                                    |                  | Total        | \$        | Total              | \$      |           |

Fee payment:

A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.  
 Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.  
 Payment by credit card in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Matos Michael (Reg. No. 47,793)

Date

6/2/04



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June 2, 2004

Date of Deposit

Carmen Matos Michael

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

  
Signature

June 2, 2004

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10000/209  
DN-1277

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

David M. Hardin et al.

Serial No.: 10/719,764

Filing Date: November 21, 2003

For: LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE

Examiner:

Group Art Unit No.:

**FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

The references now cited are the following:

| Patent No.         | Date    | Name              |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------|
| 5,490,845          | 2/13/96 | Racz              |
| 5,498,249          | 3/12/96 | Quinn             |
| 5,728,122          | 3/17/98 | Leschinsky et al. |
| US 2002/0010426 A1 | 1/24/02 | Clayman et al.    |
| US 2004/0082881 A1 | 4/29/04 | Greve et al.      |

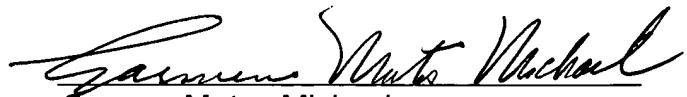
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

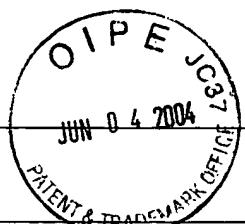
Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in  
the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Carmen Matos Michael  
Registration No. 47,793  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
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Chicago, IL 60610  
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|   |  |                                      |                                    |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449   | JUN 04 2004<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | SERIAL NO.<br>10/719,764             | CASE NO.<br>10000/209<br>(DN-1277) |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR<br>APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br>STATEMENT |  | FILING DATE<br>November 21, 2003     | GROUP ART UNIT                     |
| (use several sheets if necessary)   |  | APPLICANT(S): David M. Hardin et al. |                                    |

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| SEARCHED DOCUMENTS |  |         |                   |                 |             |  |
|--------------------|--|---------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|--|
| EXAMINER INITIAL   | DOCUMENT NUMBER<br>Number-Kind Code (if known) | DATE    | NAME              | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |  |
|                    | A1 5,490,845                                   | 2/13/96 | Racz              |                 |             |  |
|                    | A2 5,498,249                                   | 3/12/96 | Quinn             |                 |             |  |
|                    | A3 5,728,122                                   | 3/17/98 | Leschinsky et al. |                 |             |  |
|                    | A4 US 2002/0010426 A1                          | 1/24/02 | Clayman et al.    |                 |             |  |
|                    | A5 US 2004/0082881 A1                          | 4/29/04 | Grewe et al.      |                 |             |  |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |  |      |         |                 |                       |
|--------------------------|--|--|------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL         |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER<br>Number-Kind Code (if known) | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES OR NO |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;  
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next  
communication to applicant.